

Aaron ReardonCounty Executive

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April 25, 2011

Mr. Steve Shipe NW Region Environmental Tribal Coordinator Washington State Department of Transportation 15700 Dayton Avenue North Seattle, WA 98133-9710

RE: State Route (SR) 9 Pilchuck Creek Bridge Replacement Project

Dear Mr. Shipe,

Thank you for the opportunity to be included as a consulting party for the SR9 Pilchuck Creek replacement project. At this time – Snohomish County requests additional information before making a recommendation on any of the four alternatives currently being evaluated.

I would like to inquire if construction of a single lane bridge adjacent to the historic bridge was considered an alternative, and if so – where are the studies? If not, I would like to see that alternative fully vetted.

As you know, a scour repair project was recently completed on the Pilchuck Creek Bridge 2006. In our opinion, it would be wasteful to remove the bridge after this investment at rehabilitation was just finished.

As an archeological "isolate" site was identified in the vicinity of the existing bridge, I appreciate that WSDOT completed a full archaeological and cultural resource investigation. As Snohomish County will require a shoreline permit to move forward with the project, we would expect those reports as part of the permitting submittal.

In closing, the Snohomish County Historic Preservation Commission will be reviewing the replacement project on Tuesday, May 17th. I will forward those comments immediately following their meeting.

If you have any questions, please do not hesitate to call me at (425) 388-3186 or by email at wendy.becker@snoco.org.

Sincerely, Wendy Becker Economic and Cultural Development Officer